



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 6, 2012

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## USDA TO COLLECT 2013 SHEEP AND GOAT INVENTORY DATA

Little Rock, AR – In late December, The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will begin to survey sheep and goat operations throughout the country for a comprehensive measure of inventories as well as wool and mohair production nationwide.

"NASS will give producers the opportunity to report the latest information on conditions and trends in the U.S. sheep and goat industry throughout Arkansas," said Becky Cross, Director of the NASS Arkansas Field Office. "In Arkansas, we'll be contacting over 300 operations to request their responses to the Sheep and Goat Survey."

"Accurate data on sheep and goat inventory and production is a critical decision-making tool for USDA and the industry to be more responsive to domestic and international markets and consumer needs. The information can also help create public appreciation for the benefits of U.S. sheep and goats and their products," added Cross.

To make it as easy as possible for producers to participate, NASS offers the option of responding via a secure Internet connection, telephone, mail, or personal interview with a local NASS representative.

Cross noted that, as is the case with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. "NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified," she said.

NASS will publish the survey results on February 1, 2013, in the *Sheep and Goats* report. These and all NASS reports are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov). For more information, call the NASS Arkansas Field Office at (800)327-2970

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